

WISCONSIN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

April 13, 2012

The Honorable Scott Walker Governor State of Wisconsin 115 East Capitol Madison, WI 53702

APR 10 898

Dear Governor Walker:

We received your letter and request for information about past survey responses yesterday morning. Minutes later we received a copy of the press release your office staff issued to media about that letter.

The timing of your request, the disingenuous nature of your questions, and your repeated distortions about these old surveys, which were posted on WEAC's website through the fall of 2011 and which are posted on your State of Wisconsin website, suggest to me a political ploy meant to pick yet another fight with those with whom you disagree. We are not going to engage in that gamesmanship.

The education of Wisconsin's children and the fate of our public schools are too important to be subjected to the politics of division and distortion that Wisconsin is so tired of.

This fact is indisputable: You have made the biggest cuts to education in our State's history. All across the state children have fewer learning opportunities, class sizes have increased and there are fewer teachers. Parents, teachers, school board members, school district administrators and Wisconsin residents have grave concerns about the devastating impact of your cuts to public education.

Education funding – and a quest to find a better way to fund Wisconsin's public schools – has been a priority of our union of educators for many years. We will continue to make education funding a priority. Your massive cut to public education at the same time you increased funding for the private school voucher program and gave tax breaks to out-of-state corporations and the wealthy stands in stark contrast to the work of our members and to the values upon which Wisconsin has been built.

Sincerely,

Mary Bell, President Dan Burkhalter, Executive Director